

Identity Theft

Small Group Questions



Introduction:

Many people ask the question: Who Am I? We see many people living their lives trying to figure out the answer to that question. Similar to “Where do I belong” this question of Identity leads us down a path to a journey of self-discovery. Sadly, our ID gets hijacked and we come to a crisis of ID theft. It’s not about taking your ss card or your credit card, but similarly this hijacking of our ID causes us to try to recoup what we lost. We seek out our ID among drugs, sex, violence, religion, our jobs, our grades and a whole host of other things. We are left asking the big question: Who Am I? This week and on into the next 3 weeks, we will be looking at who we really are, what is our ID. What have we been seeking our Identity and how can we latch on to the truth of who we truly are? **Genesis 3: This is where we lost our identity as “Children of God” and began seeking for our identity in other things.**

Discussion:

If you were asked the question: Who am I, how would you answer?

-Who/what have others said you are?

-Knowing your ID is extremely important to living, why do you think it is so important?

What are things people turn to that they hope will help them find out who they are?

Explanation:

The culture around us desires to strongly influence our identities, it seeks to make us desire things to attach to our lives that seem necessary but in reality aren’t. Such things as popularity, being the “hottest” person in school, wearing the right clothes, owning the right game system

- What do you think most people would say to the question: “Who are you?”

- If you were to list the top 5 things people want to be, what would they be?

-What role do you think God plays in your Identity? Why?

Application:

-God has “knit us together in our mothers womb” Psalm 139:13 He knows who we are, why don’t we usually go to Him to find out who we are?

-READ Jeremiah 29:11- What do you think this means as to who Jesus says you are?

-FOR TAKE HOME: Challenge the teens to read Psalm 139:13. Challenge them to seek out who Jesus says they are, since He knows them better than they know themselves.

identity Theft #2

Small Group Questions



Introduction:

(Jason Bourne Video Intro) Last week we saw that our ID was stolen away from us, that Satan stripped us of who we were and because of our sin we were now on a journey as the human race to seek out who we are. We realized that we, like Jason Bourne are asking: “Who am I”? It’s like a story that happened to me (BATMAN STORY)...I just didn’t know who I was and I was seeking out my ID. Let me share with you what looking for your identity AWAY from Christ looks like. READ Ephesians 2:1-3. Anything outside of Christ leads to you having an ID engraved on a tombstone! This is serious stuff, but there is good news! READ Ephesians 2:4-10. Christ made a way for us to have a new Identity, no longer must we search for a new one, no longer do we have to look to our friends, family, job, school, sports, sex, drug, or anything else to seek our ID, because He has given us an opportunity at a new ID. We will look at this new ID and what it means for us throughout the next 3 weeks and trust me, it’s AWESOME stuff!

Discussion:

When you like Jason Bourne looked at yourself and said “Who Am I”? What was your answer?

-Did you ever truly believe like Marv that you could be a Super hero? When you found out you couldn’t, what happened?

-Knowing your ID is extremely important to living, why do you think it is so important?

What do you think about your true ID being stolen?

Explanation:

Satan and this world seek to confuse you about who you are, take away your ID and trick you into believing you can find out who you are through a whole slew of different things, but in the end they all lead to death!

- Why is it hard to believe that everything else besides Christ leads to death?

- Where have you seen yourself being tricked into thinking you can find your ID in different things?

-What role do you think God plays in your Identity? Why?

Application:

-READ Ephesians 2:4-10- Why do you think these verses are important when thinking about our ID

-FOR TAKE HOME: Challenge the teens to read Ephesians 2:10. Challenge them to seek out what this portion of Scripture means to them and their lives.

Who Am I?

Small Group Questions



Introduction:

We began to look at this question the last 2 weeks, but here is where we begin to unpack it and why it effects our lives. The world loves to try and label you and me. It tries to give you an ID that's not who you are. At school you have your groups: the geeks, the jocks, the goth, the emo, the punks, the skaters and so on. What happens is you start to believe the ID given to you is who you are. Some people call you: ugly, fat, worthless, a mistake, a no good pain in the neck. (BLOWFISH STORY). Which we also take as truths about who we are, when in fact that's NOT who we are. We get stuck and when asked who we are, all we end up being able to say is IDK. The Bible has several things to say to us about who we are. MAIN POINTS: **1. God calls us His Poem; 2. We are NOT an accident; 3. our ID comes from God.**

Discussion:

If you were asked the question: Who am I, how would you answer?

- What lies, or harsh things have people said about you that you began to think were true?
- Why does knowing we are made in the image of God mean anything for my life?
- What does it mean to you that you are God's poem?

Explanation:

Because people say so many things about us and who we are or who we are supposed to be, we lose sight of our true ID. God has already stamped his fingerprints all over us and given us a unique ID. His Word has all the answers that explain who we really are.

- What do you think most people would say to the question: "Who are you?"
- We are not accidents! Each and everyone of us has been placed here by God, He knows us, He loves us and has set us apart. How does this truth impact your life?
- Ephesians 2:10 explains that we are God's Poem, he has created every aspect of us. What does the end of that verse say we should then do with that knowledge?

Application:

- God has "knit us together in our mothers womb" Psalm 139:13 He knows who we are, why don't we usually go to Him to find out who we are?
- READ Ephesians 2:10 AGAIN- Know, and live in how much your Heavenly Father loves you!
- FOR TAKE HOME: Challenge the teens to Ponder and write down what it means to them that they are created in the image of God.

The Dragon Me

Small Group Questions



Introduction:

The reality of life is that we are all messed up. When we mess up big time, we get bogged down into thinking that we are what we do...if I do bad things, I'm bad, if I'm labeled as being a certain way, I become that way. However, our identity doesn't need to be framed that way. (READ ROMANS 6:6-8). When Christ comes into our lives, the old stuff that always dragged us down can be done away with! Those bad things that we end up doing can be given over to Christ. Christ makes you a new creation (Eustace and Aslan Story) (1 Corinthians 5:17). Ephesians 2:1-10; 4:20-24 says we are free through Christ, we can do great things because of what he has done for us! (T-SHIRT Illustration and T-Shirt Video)

Discussion:

If you were asked the question: Who am I, how would you answer?

-What are some things you do that you make your identity out of (basketball, steal, cheerleading, lying things like that)

-What are some bad things people turn to that they hope will help them find out who they are?

What are some good things people turn to that they hope will help them find out who they are?

Explanation:

Most people when asked who they are attach something they "DO" as a part of their identity, while doing things doesn't make up who you are. When Jesus died on the cross, he allowed for a new ID to be given to all of us. We saw last week that we are made in His image, we are His poem and we are no accident. This week, we learned that we can do away with all the old stuff in our lives and be new creations!

- 1 Corinthians 5:17 says we are "new creations" what do you think this means? (READ 1 Peter 2:24 for more insight)

- We cannot shed (get rid of) all the bad things we've done in our lives, but God can. It's not our works, but His! Think back to Eustace and Aslan, that's exactly how it works!

-What "dragon skins" do you think need to be shed?

Application:

-READ Romans 6:6-8; 1 Corinthians 5:17 and 1 Peter 2:24- The goal is that we switch our identity from sinner to saint, letting go of who we are and allowing God to change our lives!

-FOR TAKE HOME: Challenge the teens to read Psalm 139:13. Challenge them to seek out who Jesus says they are, since He knows them better than they know themselves.

The Alien Me

Small Group Questions



Introduction:

We've seen over the last four weeks, what our ID would be without Christ and what it looks like with Christ. We know that God loves us and gives us a new ID when we accept Christ (1 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 4:20-24 and Romans 6:6-8), but how do we live out this new look? We've peeled back the Dragon Skins of our lives, we no longer want to seek out our ID's in the junky, nasty things of the world, what's our ID "out there"? 1 Peter 2:11-12 shows us how we can now live. The Scripture calls us to be Aliens! Not the green, martian kind, but we are called to be different. What does that look like? Well, 1 Peter 2:4 says as we come to Christ, our ID's change and so do our actions. We must act like resident aliens...not running away from those who don't know Christ, but being people who don't do the things everyone else is doing. (i.e. fighting, drugs, sex, lying, cheating). Remember though as it says in Ephesians 2:9 it's not you doing it, you must allow Christ to make you different..that's the Alien You! (Good place to fit in evangelism at school, showing Christ by loving those people don't usually love, by going against the crowd)

Discussion:

- Why is living like an alien so hard?
- When you think of living like an alien in school, what does that look like?
- Who are some people that need to see you living differently? Why?

Explanation:

Living against the flow is NOT easy...in fact it's impossible if we try to do it on our own. Without Jesus living in us, we are just like everyone else, but with Jesus living in us, we are ALIENS! We also have a ton going for us.

- What do you think most people would say to the question: "Who are you?"
- If you were to list the top 5 things people want to be, what would they be?
- What role do you think God plays in your Identity? Why?

Application:

-READ 1 Peter 2:9- This is what we become when we come to Christ! Why is this important?

-FOR TAKE HOME: Challenge the teens to understand 2 things: 1. They are called to live like aliens in school (living like Jesus in their schools, and when people ask being able to explain their faith) 2. Coming to Christ is the only way to do this. Challenge them to give all over to Jesus so He can make them Aliens in this world!